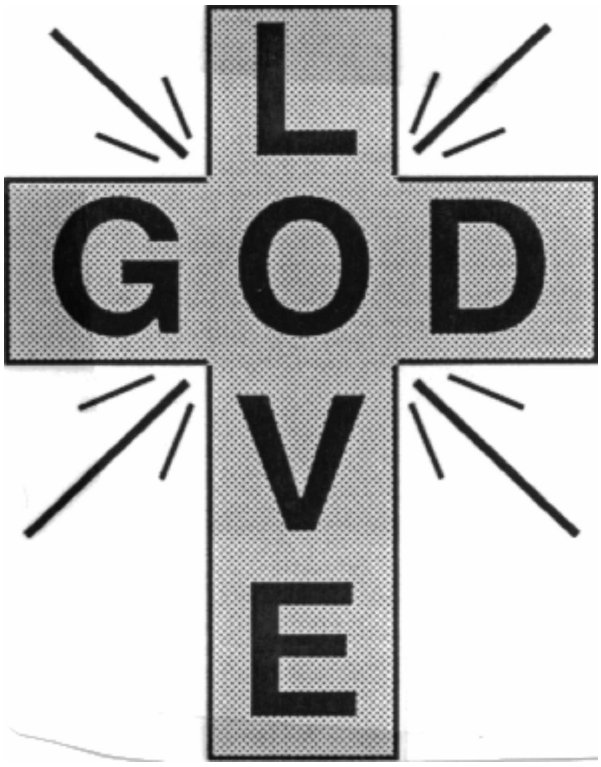

THE MIDNIGHT HOUR IS UPON US

By Jim Giatas

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."
— Matthew 24:42

The Midnight Hour Is Upon Us

By Jim Giatas

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S.D.G.
Soli Deo Gloria — Glory to God alone
Μόνον τῷ Θεῷ ἡ δόξα (Monon tō Theō hē doxa)

Dedication

To the Lord Jesus Christ —
the Bright and Morning Star,
the Faithful and True Witness,
the One who was, and is, and is to come.

This book is offered to Him alone,
in gratitude for His mercy,
in awe of His majesty,
and in longing for His appearing.

To all who watch for His return,
who love His coming,
who refuse the darkness of this age
and lift their eyes toward the eastern sky —
may your hearts be strengthened
as the midnight hour gives way to dawn.

And to the remnant of God's people
in every nation, tribe, and tongue —
may the grace of Christ sustain you
until the trumpet sounds
and the King appears in glory.

Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

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Introductory Scriptures

A Call to Watchfulness in the Midnight Hour

These passages form the foundation of the message contained in this book.
They speak with one voice — a voice calling the Church to discern the times, to stand firm in the truth, and to lift its eyes toward the blessed hope of Christ's appearing.

The Midnight Cry

- **Matthew 25:6** — "And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him."

The Signs of the Times

- **Luke 21:28** — "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."
- **Matthew 16:1–4** — records a confrontation between Jesus and the religious leaders—Pharisees and Sadducees—over signs. It is a passage about spiritual blindness, hypocrisy, and the refusal to recognize the Messiah despite overwhelming evidence.

Here is the text:

1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

2 He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.

3 And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?

4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

The Blessed Hope

- **Titus 2:13** — "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

The Last Trumpet

- **1 Corinthians 15:52** — "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump… the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

- **Revelation 1:7** — "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him."

The End of the Age

- **2 Peter 3:10** — "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night…"

The Final Promise

- **Revelation 22:20** — "Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Purpose of These Scriptures

These verses are not merely introductory.
They are **the heartbeat of the book** — the prophetic lens through which every chapter must be read.

They remind the reader that:

- the midnight hour is real
- the signs are converging
- the King is near
- the Church must watch
- the saints must endure
- the hope of Christ's appearing is certain

This page prepares the reader's heart for the journey that follows.

Introduction

The Midnight Hour Is Upon Us
by Jim Giatas

For two thousand years, Christians have lived with a hope that has shaped their prayers, their endurance, and their vision of the world: the blessed hope of the glorious appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. In my earlier work, *Soon and Very Soon*, I sought to recover the simplicity and purity of that hope — not as a distant doctrine, but as a living expectation rooted in Scripture and confirmed by the signs of our time. I wrote then that the return of Christ is not a speculative

curiosity but the radiant horizon toward which all of history moves. That conviction has only deepened.

This new book continues that journey.

We are living in an age of prophetic convergence — a moment when biblical patterns, historical developments, and global conditions align with a clarity that previous generations longed to see. The restoration of Israel, the acceleration of global communication, the rise of ideological systems that oppose Christ, the moral collapse of nations once shaped by the Gospel, and the increasing fragility of world order all testify that the midnight cry of Matthew 25 is drawing near: *"Behold, the Bridegroom cometh."*

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I explored the nearness of Christ's return through the lens of Scripture and the witness of the early Church. But there is another voice whose work has profoundly shaped my understanding of these times — the prophetic analysis of Ellis Skolfield. His book *The Hidden Beast 2* stands as one of the most coherent, Scripture-anchored explanations of the prophetic landscape in our generation. Skolfield does not sensationalize. He does not predict dates. He does not bend Scripture to fit headlines. Instead, he allows Scripture to interpret Scripture, revealing a prophetic architecture that stretches across centuries and culminates in the age in which we now live.

This book brings these two streams together.

From *Soon and Very Soon*, we draw the central truth that Christ returns once — visibly, gloriously, and finally — at the end of the age. From Skolfield, we draw the prophetic framework that explains *why* the world looks as it does, *how* the Beast system has operated through history, and *why* the signs of our time carry such weight. Together, these perspectives form a unified vision: a biblical, historical, and spiritual understanding of the midnight hour now upon us.

This is not a book of fear. It is a book of clarity.
It is not a book of speculation. It is a book of Scripture.
It is not a book of despair. It is a book of hope — the blessed hope.

My aim is simple: to help believers understand the times without confusion, to watch without anxiety, and to wait with the same holy expectation that animated the apostles, the martyrs, and the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us. The midnight hour is not a moment of dread for the people of God. It is the moment when the long-awaited cry rings out, when the Bridegroom draws near, when the promises of God ripen into sight.

If *Soon and Very Soon* was a call to awaken expectation, then *The Midnight Hour Is Upon Us* is a call to discernment — to see the world as Scripture describes it, to recognize the prophetic season in which we live, and to prepare our hearts for the appearing of the King.

For the promise still stands:
"Behold, I come quickly."

CHAPTER ONE

The Question That Will Not Go Away

Every generation of Christians has watched the world with a mixture of longing and holy caution, wondering whether the signs of Christ's return were beginning to unfold. Yet in our own time, a question has risen with unusual force — a question that refuses to be dismissed, minimized, or explained away. It is the question that presses upon the hearts of believers across nations, denominations, and traditions:

Are we living in the midnight hour?

This question is not born of fear. It is born of recognition — the recognition that the world around us increasingly resembles the prophetic landscape described in Scripture. It is the recognition that the convergence of signs Jesus spoke of is no longer theoretical, but visible. It is the recognition that the long arc of biblical prophecy, stretching from Daniel to Revelation, is bending toward its appointed fulfillment.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I wrote that the blessed hope of the Church is not a distant doctrine but a living expectation. I wrote that the signs of Christ's return are ripening, that the world is approaching a divinely appointed turning point, and that the promises of God are drawing near to their consummation. That conviction has only intensified.

But there is another reason the question will not go away — a reason rooted in the prophetic clarity of Ellis Skolfield. His work, especially *The Hidden Beast 2*, has helped countless believers see that the prophetic timeline is not a puzzle of disconnected symbols, but a coherent revelation of God's dealings with nations, kingdoms, and spiritual powers. Skolfield's insights have given shape to what many Christians have sensed intuitively: that the midnight cry of Matthew 25 is not far off.

This chapter explores why the question of the midnight hour has become unavoidable — and why the Church must face it with discernment, sobriety, and hope.

1. The Signs of the Times Are No Longer Scattered — They Are Converging

Jesus spoke of wars, lawlessness, deception, global fear, and the shaking of nations. Paul spoke of moral collapse, spiritual rebellion, and the rise of counterfeit religion. John spoke of a Beast system that would grow in influence until the end of the age.

These signs have appeared in various forms throughout history. But never before have they appeared **together**, **globally**, and with such **acceleration**.

The midnight hour is not defined by a single sign. It is defined by convergence.

- Israel restored to her land
- Jerusalem at the center of world attention
- Global communication enabling Revelation-style events
- Technological systems capable of worldwide control
- Moral collapse in nations once shaped by the Gospel
- The rise of ideological movements that oppose Christ
- The erosion of biblical truth within the Church
- The spread of the Gospel to the ends of the earth

This convergence is unprecedented. It is the prophetic equivalent of the contractions Jesus described — birth pains increasing in frequency and intensity as the moment approaches.

2. The Restoration of Israel Has Restarted the Prophetic Clock

For nearly two thousand years, Israel existed only in memory and Scripture. Yet the prophets declared that God would gather His people back to their land in the last days. When Israel was restored in 1948, and Jerusalem returned to Jewish control in 1967, the world witnessed the fulfillment of prophecies long considered impossible.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I wrote that Israel's restoration is one of the clearest signs that the age is drawing to its close. Skolfield goes further: he argues that these events mark the restarting of the prophetic clock — the beginning of the final generation Jesus spoke of.

The midnight hour is not merely approaching. It has begun.

3. The Beast System Is No Longer Hidden — It Is Visible

One of Skolfield's most important contributions is his insistence that the Beast of Revelation is not a future political figure, but a long-standing spiritual system — a counterfeit kingdom that has operated through history and now stands fully revealed.

This system:

- opposes Christ
- deceives nations
- corrupts religion
- exalts human authority over divine truth
- prepares the world for final confrontation

In *The Hidden Beast 2*, Skolfield demonstrates that the Beast is not waiting to appear — it has been here for centuries. What is new is its **unmasking**. The midnight hour is the moment when the hidden becomes visible, when the spiritual architecture behind history is exposed.

This is why the question will not go away. The world is beginning to look like the world Scripture describes at the end of the age.

4. The Church Is Awakening to the Simplicity of One Return

Modern prophecy teaching has fractured the Second Coming into multiple stages — a secret rapture, a seven-year gap, a divided return, and a delayed kingdom. But Scripture speaks with a unified voice:

- one return
- one resurrection
- one judgment
- one consummation
- one eternal kingdom

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I argued that Christ returns once, visibly and gloriously, at the end of the age. Skolfield's work confirms this with remarkable clarity. The midnight hour is not the beginning of a complicated prophetic sequence. It is the moment when the King appears.

5. The Midnight Cry Is Growing Louder

Jesus said that at midnight a cry would ring out:
"Behold, the Bridegroom cometh."

That cry is not a trumpet blast. It is a spiritual awakening — a recognition among God's people that the hour is late, the signs are clear, and the return of Christ is near.

Across the world, believers are sensing the same thing:

- a stirring in the spirit
- a quickening of expectation
- a longing for the appearing of Christ
- a recognition that the world is changing rapidly
- a conviction that the promises of God are ripening

This is the midnight cry. It is not fear. It is not speculation. It is the Spirit of God awakening His people.

Conclusion: The Midnight Hour Is Not a Theory — It Is a Reality

The question that will not go away is not a distraction. It is a summons.
It is the Spirit calling the Church to watchfulness, discernment, and hope.

We are not called to predict the day or the hour.
We are called to recognize the season.

And the season is unmistakable.

The midnight hour is upon us.

CHAPTER TWO

Ellis Skolfield and the Architecture of Prophetic Time

Every generation produces voices that speak to the moment in which they live. Some speak with passion, others with scholarship, and still others with prophetic urgency. But only a few speak with the rare combination of clarity, sobriety, and biblical fidelity that marks a true interpreter of the times. Ellis Skolfield was such a voice.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I wrote that the nearness of Christ's return is not a matter of speculation but of scriptural expectation. Yet Scripture does not merely give us signs; it gives us patterns — prophetic structures woven into the fabric of history. What Skolfield accomplished, especially in *The Hidden Beast 2*, was to reveal those structures with a precision that few have matched. He did not invent a new system. He uncovered an old one — the prophetic architecture that God Himself embedded in His Word.

This chapter explores Skolfield's most important contribution: his understanding of prophetic time, and how it reveals the lateness of the hour in which we now live.

1. Prophetic Time Is Symbolic, But Never Arbitrary

One of Skolfield's foundational insights is that biblical prophecy often uses symbolic time — not to obscure meaning, but to reveal it. Scripture itself establishes this principle:

- "Each day for a year" (Numbers 14:34)
- "I have appointed thee each day for a year" (Ezekiel 4:6)

These passages are not poetic metaphors. They are interpretive keys.

Skolfield argues that when Scripture uses symbolic numbers — 1,260 days, 42 months, "time, times, and half a time" — it is not speaking of literal days, but of prophetic years. This principle, long recognized by earlier interpreters, becomes the backbone of his timeline.

Prophetic time is symbolic, but it is never vague. It is measurable, traceable, and anchored in history.

2. The Beast Is Not a Future Dictator — It Is a Long-Standing System

Modern prophecy teaching often focuses on identifying a future Antichrist — a political figure who will arise at the end of the age. Skolfield takes a radically different approach, one far more consistent with Scripture and history.

He argues that the Beast of Revelation is not a man, but a **system**:

- a counterfeit kingdom
- a spiritual power
- a religio-political structure
- a long-duration force that opposes Christ

This interpretation does not diminish the seriousness of the Beast. It magnifies it. A single man can deceive a generation. A system can deceive centuries.

In *The Hidden Beast 2*, Skolfield traces this system through history, showing how it rises, consolidates power, persecutes the saints, and ultimately stands exposed in the final generation. The Beast is not waiting to appear. It has been here. What is new is its unveiling.

This is why the midnight hour feels so urgent. The hidden is becoming visible.

3. The 1,260-Year Prophetic Period and the Rise of a Counterfeit Kingdom

Skolfield's most controversial — and most compelling — contribution is his identification of the 1,260-year prophetic period with the rise and dominance of a specific religio-political system in the Middle East. He does not demonize individuals. He does not attack people. He examines the system itself.

According to Skolfield:

- the founding era of this system marks the beginning of the 1,260-year countdown
- its decline in the 19th and 20th centuries marks the end of that period
- the restoration of Israel immediately afterward is not coincidence, but prophetic sequence

This is not speculation. It is historical alignment.

Skolfield's timeline does not predict dates. It identifies patterns — patterns that match Scripture with remarkable precision.

4. Israel's Restoration as the Turning Point of the Age

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I wrote that the rebirth of Israel is one of the clearest signs that the age is drawing to its close. Skolfield goes further: he argues that Israel's restoration is the hinge upon which the prophetic timeline turns.

According to his framework:

- 1948 marks the return of the nation
- 1967 marks the return of Jerusalem
- together they signal the end of the long prophetic period
- and the beginning of the final generation

Jesus said:

"When ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand."

Skolfield takes these words seriously — not symbolically, not allegorically, but literally. The prophetic clock, long paused, has begun to move again.

The midnight hour is not approaching. It has begun.

5. The Two Witnesses and the Testimony of Scripture

Another of Skolfield's insights is his interpretation of the Two Witnesses in Revelation 11. Rather than viewing them as two future prophets, he sees them as symbolic representations of:

- the Law
- and the Gospel

or, more broadly:

- the Old Testament
- and the New Testament

Their "death" represents periods when Scripture was suppressed or obscured.
Their "resurrection" represents the revival of biblical truth — especially during the Reformation and the modern missionary era.

This interpretation allows Skolfield to integrate:

- church history
- the spread of the Gospel
- the rise and fall of biblical influence

into a coherent prophetic timeline.

It also reinforces the central theme of this book: the midnight hour is not defined by chaos, but by clarity. The testimony of Scripture is shining again.

6. Prophetic Convergence: The Signature of the Final Generation

Skolfield emphasizes that the most important sign of the end is not any single event, but the convergence of many prophetic threads:

- Israel restored
- Jerusalem central to world politics
- global communication enabling Revelation-style events
- worldwide evangelism
- moral collapse
- technological readiness for global governance
- the decline of long-standing anti-Christian systems
- the alignment of symbolic time periods

This convergence is unique to our generation. It is the signature of the midnight hour.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I wrote that the signs of Christ's return are ripening. Skolfield shows how they fit together — not as isolated events, but as parts of a single prophetic tapestry.

7. Skolfield's Caution: Recognize the Season, Not the Day

Despite his detailed analysis, Skolfield never sets dates. He warns against it. He insists that believers can recognize the season, but not the hour.

Jesus said:

"When ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."

The midnight hour is not a calendar date. It is a spiritual season — a moment when the signs align, the Beast is unmasked, Israel is restored, and the testimony of Scripture shines with renewed clarity.

We are living in that season.

Conclusion: The Architecture of Prophetic Time Points to One Reality

Skolfield's work does not replace Scripture. It illuminates it.
It does not predict the future. It reveals the pattern of the past.
It does not sensationalize. It clarifies.

And what it clarifies is this:

The midnight hour is upon us.
The prophetic clock is moving.
The King is near.

CHAPTER THREE

One Return of Christ — Not Two, Not Three

Few doctrines have caused more confusion in the modern Church than the idea that Christ will return in stages — first secretly for the Church, then publicly for Israel, and then again to establish an earthly kingdom. These theories, popularized in the last two centuries, have fractured what Scripture keeps unified. They have divided the blessed hope into multiple events, multiple resurrections, and multiple judgments. They have created a prophetic maze that leaves many believers uncertain, anxious, or simply exhausted.

But Scripture speaks with a simplicity that cuts through the confusion.

There is **one** Second Coming.
One resurrection of the righteous.
One last trumpet.
One appearing of the King.
One consummation of the age.

This chapter explores why the Bible teaches a single, glorious return of Christ — and how both *Soon and Very Soon*and Ellis Skolfield's *The Hidden Beast 2* restore this clarity to the Church.

1. The New Testament Speaks of One Return, Not Many

From the Gospels to Revelation, the language of Scripture is unmistakably singular:

- "**The** coming of the Lord"
- "**The** last day"
- "**The** resurrection"
- "**The** day of Christ"
- "**The** last trump"

There is no hint of a divided return. No secret phase. No hidden extraction of the Church. No seven-year gap. No two-stage appearing.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the early Church lived with a unified expectation — the visible, triumphant return of Christ at the end of the age. Skolfield reinforces this by showing that the rapture theories require multiple comings that Scripture never mentions.

The Bible knows nothing of a fragmented Second Coming.
It knows only the return of the King.

2. The Resurrection Happens at the Last Day — Not Before

Jesus repeats this truth four times in John 6:

"I will raise him up **at the last day**."

Not seven years earlier.
Not in a secret event.
Not in stages.

Paul confirms this:

- the resurrection occurs at **the last trump**
- the rapture occurs **at the resurrection**
- therefore the rapture occurs **at the last day**

This alone dismantles the pre-trib and mid-trib systems.
There is no biblical room for an earlier resurrection.

The midnight hour is not the beginning of a prophetic sequence.
It is the moment of consummation.

3. The "Secret Rapture" Is Absent From Scripture

Modern prophecy teaching often claims that Christ will come secretly for the Church, quietly removing believers before the world notices. But Jesus says the opposite:

- His coming will be like lightning across the sky
- every eye will see Him
- the nations will mourn
- the trumpet will sound
- the heavens will shake
- the dead will rise

Nothing about this is secret.

Skolfield argues that the "secret rapture" is not merely absent from Scripture — it contradicts Scripture. It requires a quiet coming where Jesus promises a visible one. It requires a hidden event where Jesus describes a cosmic one. It requires a divided return where Jesus speaks of a single day.

The midnight hour is not a whisper.
It is a revelation.

4. The 7-Year Tribulation Is a Modern Invention

One of Skolfield's most important contributions is his refutation of the so-called "7-year Tribulation." He demonstrates that:

- the term never appears in Scripture
- Revelation never mentions a 7-year period
- the idea is based on a misinterpretation of Daniel 9
- the 70th week was fulfilled in Christ, not postponed into the future

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the early Church never taught a 7-year Tribulation. Skolfield shows why: the doctrine did not exist until the 1800s.

The midnight hour is not defined by a countdown to a seven-year period.
It is defined by the convergence of signs that precede the return of Christ.

5. The Church Is Not Removed to Escape Tribulation

Jesus said plainly:

"In the world ye shall have tribulation."

The Greek word *thlipsis* means pressure, affliction, persecution — not a special seven-year era. The idea that the Church must be removed to avoid suffering is foreign to Scripture and contradicted by the testimony of the saints.

Skolfield argues that the Church has always endured tribulation, and will continue to do so until the appearing of Christ. The promise is not escape from pressure, but victory through it.

The midnight hour is not a time of retreat.
It is a time of endurance.

6. The Last Trumpet Is the Trumpet of the Resurrection

Rapture teachers often claim that the "trump of God" in 1 Thessalonians 4 is different from the "last trump" in 1 Corinthians 15. Skolfield calls this linguistic gymnastics.

There is one last trumpet.
There is one resurrection.
There is one gathering of the saints.
There is one return of Christ.

The midnight hour is not a prelude.
It is the moment when the trumpet sounds.

7. The Early Church Knew Nothing of Multiple Comings

From the Didache to the writings of the Church Fathers, the early believers taught:

- one return
- one resurrection
- one judgment
- one consummation

The idea of a secret rapture would have been unrecognizable to them.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the early Church lived with a vibrant expectation of Christ's appearing — not a hidden event, but a cosmic one. Skolfield's work confirms this ancient understanding.

The midnight hour is not a new doctrine.
It is the recovery of an old one.

Conclusion: The Midnight Hour Restores the Simplicity of the Blessed Hope

The modern Church has inherited a maze of prophetic theories that fracture the Second Coming into pieces. But Scripture restores the unity. Skolfield restores the clarity. And the Spirit restores the urgency.

There is one return of Christ.
One resurrection.
One trumpet.
One day of the Lord.
One blessed hope.

And that hope is drawing near.

The midnight hour is not complicated.
It is glorious.

CHAPTER FOUR

Armageddon: The Final Confrontation at the End of the Age

Few words in the prophetic vocabulary stir as much emotion as *Armageddon*. For many, it evokes images of global war, nuclear fire, or political collapse. Hollywood has turned it into a spectacle. Popular prophecy teachers have turned it into a timeline. But Scripture presents Armageddon not as a cinematic disaster, nor as a geopolitical puzzle, but as the final spiritual confrontation between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, I wrote that Christ returns once — visibly and gloriously — **after** the defeat of evil at Armageddon. Ellis Skolfield's work confirms this, showing that Armageddon is not a seven-year drama, nor a sequence of military campaigns, but the climactic moment when the Beast system reaches its peak and is destroyed by the appearing of the King.

This chapter explores what Armageddon truly is — and what it is not — so that believers may understand the midnight hour with clarity and confidence.

1. Armageddon Is Not a Human War — It Is a Divine Intervention

The Book of Revelation describes the gathering of nations to a place called *Har-Magedon* (Revelation 16:16). But the focus of the passage is not the armies. It is the **One who defeats them**.

Scripture is clear:

- Christ destroys the Beast
- Christ casts down the false prophet
- Christ slays the armies with the sword of His mouth
- Christ alone wins the battle

Armageddon is not a contest.
It is a confrontation.
And the outcome is never in doubt.

Skolfield emphasizes that Armageddon is the moment when the Beast system — the long-standing counterfeit kingdom described in *The Hidden Beast 2* — reaches its final expression and is shattered by the appearing of Christ.

The midnight hour is not the rise of evil.
It is the end of it.

2. Armageddon Is the End of the Age — Not the Middle of a Timeline

Modern prophecy systems often place Armageddon at the end of a seven-year Tribulation. But Scripture places Armageddon at the **end of the age**, immediately before the return of Christ.

Jesus said:

- the harvest is "the end of the world"
- the angels gather the elect at His appearing
- the wicked are judged at the same time
- the kingdom is established immediately afterward

There is no gap.
No delay.
No second chance.
No thousand-year postponement of the kingdom.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the Second Coming, the resurrection, the judgment, and the renewal of creation all occur together. Skolfield's work reinforces this unified picture.

Armageddon is not a midpoint.
It is the climax.

3. The Beast System Reaches Its Peak Before Armageddon

Skolfield's prophetic framework shows that the Beast is not a future dictator, but a long-standing spiritual system that rises, consolidates power, and ultimately stands exposed in the final generation.

Before Armageddon:

- deception reaches its height
- false religion gains global influence
- nations align against the truth
- the world system hardens in rebellion
- the Church faces increasing pressure

This is not speculation. It is the pattern Scripture describes.

Armageddon is the moment when the Beast system, having reached its full maturity, is confronted and destroyed by Christ Himself.

The midnight hour is not the triumph of darkness.
It is the moment before dawn.

4. Armageddon Is a Spiritual Battle Manifested in the Physical World

Many imagine Armageddon as a purely military conflict — tanks, missiles, and armies converging on Israel. But Scripture reveals a deeper reality:

- the battle is spiritual
- the forces are demonic
- the deception is global
- the rebellion is ideological
- the conflict is cosmic

The physical gathering of nations is the outward expression of an inward spiritual war.

Paul wrote:

"We wrestle not against flesh and blood."

Skolfield argues that Armageddon is the final collision between the kingdom of Christ and the counterfeit kingdom of the Beast — a spiritual confrontation that manifests in the visible world.

The midnight hour is not defined by military power.
It is defined by spiritual allegiance.

5. Christ Returns at Armageddon — Not Before, Not After

This is the heart of the matter.

Scripture teaches:

- Christ returns **after** the Beast system reaches its peak
- Christ returns **during** the final rebellion of nations
- Christ returns **to destroy** the Beast and its armies
- Christ returns **to raise the dead**
- Christ returns **to judge the world**
- Christ returns **to renew creation**

There is no biblical room for:

- a secret return
- a partial return
- a two-stage return
- a seven-year gap
- a delayed kingdom

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the blessed hope is the visible, triumphant appearing of Christ at the end of the age. Skolfield's work confirms this with prophetic precision.

Armageddon is not followed by more history.
It is followed by eternity.

6. Armageddon Is the End of the Beast — Not the End of the World

After Armageddon:

- the Beast is destroyed
- the false prophet is cast down
- Satan is judged
- the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of Christ
- the dead are raised
- the new creation begins

The world does not end in fire.
It ends in renewal.

The midnight hour is not the destruction of creation.
It is the restoration of it.

7. Why Armageddon Matters for the Midnight Hour

Understanding Armageddon clarifies the times in which we live:

- the Beast system is already visible
- the nations are aligning spiritually
- deception is increasing
- the Church is being refined
- Israel is restored
- prophetic convergence is accelerating

Armageddon is not a distant event.
It is the next major event in the prophetic sequence.

And Christ returns immediately afterward.

This is why the midnight hour feels so urgent.
This is why the Spirit is awakening the Church.
This is why the question will not go away.

Conclusion: Armageddon Is the Threshold of Glory

Armageddon is not the triumph of evil.
It is the defeat of it.

It is not the collapse of hope.
It is the fulfillment of it.

It is not the end of the story.
It is the beginning of the new creation.

The midnight hour is not a time of fear.
It is the moment before the appearing of the King.

CHAPTER FIVE

The Antichrist Unveiled — A Counterfeit Kingdom in the Midst of the Church

Few subjects in biblical prophecy have generated more speculation than the Antichrist. For generations, Christians have tried to identify him — a political leader, a military dictator, a charismatic deceiver, a global tyrant. Every decade produces new candidates, new theories, new predictions. Yet all of them fade, and the cycle begins again.

But Scripture does not describe the Antichrist as a single future individual who suddenly appears at the end of the age. It describes something far more sobering — a **spiritual system**, a **counterfeit kingdom**, a **long-standing deception**that operates in the midst of the Church and reaches its full expression in the final generation.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the greatest danger to the Church is not persecution from the world, but deception from within. Ellis Skolfield's work confirms this with prophetic precision. In *The Hidden Beast 2*, he demonstrates that the Antichrist is not a man waiting to appear, but a system that has been operating for centuries — a system that now stands fully revealed in the midnight hour.

This chapter unveils the biblical identity of the Antichrist and explains why recognizing this truth is essential for understanding the times.

1. Scripture Describes the Antichrist as a Spirit Before It Describes a Person

John writes:

“Even now are there many antichrists.”
“This is that spirit of antichrist.”
— 1 John 2:18; 4:3

Before the Antichrist is ever a figure, he is a **spirit** — a spiritual power that:

- denies the true Christ
- corrupts the Gospel
- infiltrates the Church
- deceives the nations
- opposes the kingdom of God

This spirit has been active since the first century. It is not waiting for the future. It is present now.

Skolfield argues that the Antichrist spirit manifests through **systems**, not merely individuals — systems that distort Scripture, counterfeit truth, and exalt human authority over divine revelation.

The midnight hour is not the arrival of the Antichrist.
It is the unveiling of what has long been hidden.

2. The Antichrist Is a Counterfeit Kingdom, Not a Future Dictator

Modern prophecy teaching often imagines the Antichrist as a single charismatic leader who rises suddenly to global power. But Scripture presents a different picture:

- a beast with seven heads and ten horns
- a system that spans centuries
- a power that persecutes the saints
- a kingdom that blasphemes God
- a deception that grows gradually

This is not the description of a single man.
It is the description of a **religio-political system**.

Skolfield identifies this system as the Beast — a counterfeit kingdom that rises from the earth, speaks as a dragon, and deceives the nations. It is not a future invention. It is a historical reality.

The Antichrist is not a man who suddenly appears.
He is a system that has matured.

3. The Antichrist Operates in the Midst of the Church

Paul warns:

“The mystery of iniquity doth already work.”
— 2 Thessalonians 2:7

This mystery does not operate outside the Church.
It operates **within** it.

Jesus warned of:

- wolves in sheep’s clothing
- false prophets
- false apostles
- false brethren
- tares among the wheat

The Antichrist system does not attack the Church from the outside.
It imitates the Church from the inside.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that deception is the greatest danger of the last days. Skolfield shows why: the Antichrist system is religious, not secular — spiritual, not political — counterfeit, not openly hostile.

The midnight hour is not marked by the rise of atheism.
It is marked by the rise of false religion.

4. The Antichrist Counterfeits Everything Christ Does

Scripture reveals a pattern:

- Christ has a kingdom — the Antichrist has a kingdom
- Christ has a bride — the Antichrist has a harlot
- Christ has a seal — the Antichrist has a mark
- Christ has a Gospel — the Antichrist has a false gospel
- Christ has a Spirit — the Antichrist has a spirit
- Christ has a throne — the Antichrist seeks a throne

The Antichrist does not oppose Christ by rejecting Him.
He opposes Christ by **imitating** Him.

This is why the deception is so powerful.
This is why the Beast is so dangerous.
This is why the midnight hour requires discernment.

The Antichrist does not look like rebellion.
He looks like religion.

5. The Antichrist System Reaches Its Full Power Before the Return of Christ

Skolfield's prophetic timeline shows that the Antichrist system:

- rises gradually
- consolidates power
- deceives nations
- persecutes the saints
- dominates for a symbolic 1,260 years
- declines in the modern era
- stands exposed in the final generation

This exposure — this unmasking — is one of the clearest signs of the midnight hour.

The Antichrist is not waiting to appear.
He is waiting to be destroyed.

And he is destroyed at the appearing of Christ.

6. The Antichrist Is Destroyed by the Brightness of Christ's Coming

Paul writes:

"Whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth,
and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming."
— 2 Thessalonians 2:8

This single verse dismantles every rapture theory that places the Antichrist after the Church is gone.

Christ destroys the Antichrist:

- at His appearing
- at the last trumpet
- at the resurrection
- at the end of the age

There is no gap.
No delay.
No second stage.

The midnight hour is the moment before the destruction of the Antichrist system.

7. Why Understanding the Antichrist Matters for the Midnight Hour

Recognizing the Antichrist as a system — not a future dictator — changes everything:

- it explains the long history of deception
- it clarifies the rise of false religion
- it exposes the spiritual nature of the final conflict
- it reveals why the Beast is already visible
- it shows why the return of Christ is near

The Antichrist is not a puzzle to solve.
He is a system to discern.

And that system is now fully revealed.

Conclusion: The Antichrist Is Not the Fear of the Church — Christ Is the Hope of the Church

The Antichrist system is powerful, deceptive, and ancient.
But it is not victorious.

Christ destroys it with His appearing.
Christ ends its deception.
Christ shatters its kingdom.
Christ establishes His own.

The midnight hour is not the triumph of the Antichrist.
It is the moment before his defeat.

CHAPTER SIX

The Beast System of False Religion

If the Antichrist is the counterfeit king, then the Beast is the counterfeit kingdom — a vast, long-standing system of deception that operates through religion, ideology, and spiritual imitation. Scripture does not describe the Beast as a future political empire, nor as a sudden global dictatorship. It describes a **religious system**, a **spiritual counterfeit**, a **false kingdom** that rises slowly, spreads widely, and ultimately stands exposed in the final generation.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the greatest danger to the Church is not persecution from the world, but deception from within. Ellis Skolfield's work confirms this with prophetic precision. In *The Hidden Beast 2*, he demonstrates that the Beast is not a future invention — it is a historical system that has operated for centuries, often in the name of God, often in the garments of religion, often in the midst of the Church.

This chapter unveils the nature of the Beast system and explains why its exposure is one of the clearest signs that the midnight hour is upon us.

1. The Beast Is a Religious System, Not a Secular Empire

Revelation describes the Beast as:

- blasphemous
- worship-demanding
- miracle-counterfeiting
- spiritually deceptive
- globally influential

These are not the traits of a secular government.
They are the traits of **false religion**.

The Beast does not oppose God by rejecting Him.
The Beast opposes God by **imitating** Him.

This is why the deception is so powerful.
This is why the system is so enduring.
This is why the midnight hour requires discernment.

Skolfield argues that the Beast is a religio-political system that:

- claims divine authority
- distorts Scripture
- persecutes true believers
- spreads a false gospel
- exalts human power over God's Word

The Beast is not the absence of religion.
It is the corruption of it.

2. The Beast Has Operated for Centuries — Not Just at the End

John writes:

“The whole world wondered after the beast.”
— Revelation 13:3

This is not the description of a sudden, end-time empire.
It is the description of a **long-standing system** that grows gradually and gains influence over generations.

Skolfield shows that the Beast:

- rises slowly
- consolidates power
- spreads through culture and religion
- dominates for a symbolic 1,260 years
- declines in the modern era
- stands exposed in the final generation

The Beast is not waiting to appear.
It is waiting to be unmasked.

And that unmasking is one of the clearest signs of the midnight hour.

3. The Beast Counterfeits the Kingdom of God

Everything Christ establishes, the Beast imitates:

- Christ has a kingdom — the Beast has a kingdom
- Christ has a bride — the Beast has a harlot
- Christ has a seal — the Beast has a mark
- Christ has a Gospel — the Beast has a false gospel
- Christ has a Spirit — the Beast has a spirit
- Christ has a throne — the Beast seeks a throne

The Beast does not deceive by denying Christ.
It deceives by **replacing** Him with a counterfeit.

This is why Jesus warned repeatedly of:

- false prophets
- false teachers
- false apostles
- false brethren
- wolves in sheep’s clothing

The Beast system is not openly hostile to Christianity.
It is a **counterfeit Christianity**.

4. The Beast Uses Religion to Control, Not to Save

Revelation describes the Beast as a system that:

- demands allegiance
- enforces conformity
- punishes dissent
- controls commerce
- manipulates worship

These are not the marks of true religion.
They are the marks of **spiritual tyranny**.

Skolfield argues that the Beast system uses religion as a tool of power — not to bring people to God, but to bind them to a counterfeit authority.

The Beast does not save souls.
It enslaves them.

5. The Beast System Is Global, But Not Uniform

Revelation speaks of:

- "peoples"
- "multitudes"
- "nations"
- "tongues"

This indicates a system that transcends borders, cultures, and languages.
But it does not mean the Beast is a single global government.

Skolfield emphasizes that the Beast is:

- spiritual, not merely political
- ideological, not merely territorial
- religious, not merely governmental

It manifests differently in different regions, but its essence is the same:

A counterfeit kingdom that opposes Christ by imitating Him.

This is why the Beast can operate:

- in churches
- in religious institutions
- in political systems
- in cultural movements
- in spiritual ideologies

The Beast is not one thing.
It is one spirit expressed in many forms.

6. The Beast System Reaches Its Full Power Before the Return of Christ

Scripture teaches that:

- the Beast rises
- the Beast deceives
- the Beast persecutes
- the Beast dominates
- the Beast gathers the nations
- the Beast is destroyed at Christ's appearing

There is no biblical room for:

- a secret rapture removing the Church beforehand
- a seven-year gap
- a divided return
- a delayed kingdom

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that Christ returns once, after the defeat of evil at Armageddon. Skolfield's work confirms this: the Beast system reaches its peak **before** the return of Christ, not after.

The midnight hour is the moment before the destruction of the Beast.

7. The Exposure of the Beast Is One of the Final Signs

The Beast system has operated for centuries.
But only in the final generation does it become fully visible.

Skolfield argues that:

- the decline of the Beast system
- the restoration of Israel
- the convergence of prophetic signs
- the global spread of the Gospel
- the unmasking of false religion

are all indicators that the midnight hour has begun.

The Beast is not rising.
It is being revealed.

And revelation is the final step before destruction.

Conclusion: The Beast Is Not the Fear of the Church — Christ Is the Victory of the Church

The Beast system is ancient, deceptive, and powerful.
But it is not victorious.

Christ destroys the Beast:

- with the sword of His mouth
- with the brightness of His coming
- with the authority of His kingdom

The midnight hour is not the triumph of false religion.
It is the moment before its collapse.

The Beast system is the last counterfeit.
Christ is the final truth.

CHAPTER SEVEN

The Mystery of 666 — The Number of a Man at the End of the Age

Few symbols in Scripture have generated more speculation than the number **666**. For centuries, believers have tried to decode it — assigning it to emperors, popes, dictators, political leaders, computer systems, and even barcodes. Every generation produces new theories, new calculations, new predictions. Yet all of them fade, and the mystery remains.

But Scripture does not present 666 as a puzzle for the curious.
It presents it as a **revelation for the discerning**.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that prophecy is not given to satisfy curiosity but to strengthen faith. Ellis Skolfield's work confirms this. In *The Hidden Beast 2*, he demonstrates that 666 is not a mathematical riddle, nor a secret code, nor a hidden identity. It is a **symbolic number** that reveals the nature of the Beast system — a system rooted in human authority, human power, and human exaltation.

This chapter explores the biblical meaning of 666 and explains why its true significance becomes clear only in the midnight hour.

1. Scripture Calls 666 "the Number of a Man" — Not the Number of a Mystery

Revelation 13:18 says:

"Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast:
for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six."

The key phrase is **"the number of a man."**

Not a code.
Not a cipher.
Not a secret identity.
A **man-centered number**.

In biblical symbolism:

- **7** represents divine completeness
- **6** represents human incompleteness

Thus:

- **666** represents humanity raised to its highest possible level — yet still falling short of God
- **man exalted above measure**
- **human authority replacing divine authority**
- **a system built on human power, not God's truth**

Skolfield argues that 666 is the signature of a **man-centered religious system** — a counterfeit kingdom that imitates God but is rooted in human authority.

The midnight hour is not the rise of a superhuman figure.
It is the exposure of a **super-humanistic system**.

2. 666 Represents the Full Maturity of Human Power Without God

In Scripture, numbers often represent **patterns**, not puzzles.

- 6 is man
- 66 is man intensified
- 666 is man **fully matured** in rebellion

This is why the Beast system is described as:

- blasphemous
- self-exalting
- worship-demanding
- miracle-counterfeiting
- spiritually deceptive

It is humanity raised to its highest religious expression — **without God**.

Skolfield emphasizes that 666 is not about identifying a person.
It is about identifying a **system** — a system that reaches its full expression at the end of the age.

The Beast is not a man with a number.
The Beast is a **kingdom with a nature**.

3. 666 Is the Signature of Counterfeit Religion

Revelation 13 describes a Beast that:

- looks like a lamb
- speaks like a dragon
- performs miracles
- deceives the nations
- demands worship

This is not secular power.
This is **religious power**.

The number 666 therefore marks:

- false worship
- false authority
- false doctrine
- false spirituality
- false allegiance

It is the signature of a **counterfeit Christianity** — a system that imitates Christ while opposing Him.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that deception is the greatest danger of the last days. Skolfield shows why: the Beast system is religious, not atheistic — spiritual, not secular — counterfeit, not openly hostile.

The midnight hour is not the rise of unbelief.
It is the rise of **false belief**.

4. 666 Is Connected to the Beast's Economic and Spiritual Control

Revelation 13 says that no one can buy or sell unless they have the mark of the Beast. This is not merely economic control. It is **spiritual allegiance** expressed through economic means.

Skolfield argues that the mark is not a microchip, barcode, or implant.
It is a **symbol of loyalty** to the Beast system — a system that:

- controls religion
- controls conscience
- controls worship
- controls society

The mark is not technology.
The mark is **submission**.

666 is the number of a kingdom that demands allegiance to human authority over divine truth.

The midnight hour is not defined by gadgets.
It is defined by **allegiance**.

5. 666 Reveals the Nature of the Beast — Not the Identity of a Man

For centuries, people have tried to assign 666 to individuals.
But Scripture never tells us to identify a person.
It tells us to **understand the system**.

Skolfield emphasizes:

- the Beast is a system
- the Antichrist is a spirit
- the false prophet is a religious authority
- the number 666 is the nature of the system

This is why the Beast:

- spans centuries
- crosses cultures
- influences nations
- infiltrates religion
- deceives multitudes

The Beast is not a man with a number.
It is a **kingdom with a signature**.

6. 666 Reaches Its Full Meaning Only in the Final Generation

Revelation says:

"Let him that hath understanding count the number."

Understanding comes at the right time — not before.

Skolfield argues that the meaning of 666 becomes clear only when:

- the Beast system is fully revealed
- the Antichrist spirit is fully exposed
- the false religion reaches global influence
- the prophetic timeline reaches its end
- Israel is restored
- the signs converge

This is why earlier generations could not fully understand 666.
The system was still hidden.

But in the midnight hour, the Beast stands exposed.
And the meaning of 666 becomes unmistakable.

7. Why Understanding 666 Matters for the Midnight Hour

Recognizing the true meaning of 666:

- protects believers from deception
- exposes false religion
- clarifies the nature of the Beast
- reveals the spiritual battle of the last days
- strengthens discernment
- prepares the Church for the return of Christ

666 is not a code to fear.
It is a **warning to heed**.

It tells us that the final conflict is not political.
It is spiritual.
It is religious.
It is about allegiance.

The midnight hour is not about decoding numbers.
It is about discerning kingdoms.

Conclusion: 666 Is the Signature of Man — Christ Is the Seal of God

666 is the number of man.
777 is the number of God.

The Beast system is the final expression of human power without God.
The return of Christ is the final expression of God's power without rival.

The midnight hour is not the triumph of 666.
It is the moment before its destruction.

The Beast has a number.
Christ has a name.

And His name is above every name.

CHAPTER EIGHT

The 70th Week of Daniel Fulfilled in Christ

Few prophetic passages have been more misunderstood — or more misused — than Daniel's prophecy of the seventy weeks. For centuries, the Church understood this prophecy as a breathtaking prediction of the coming of the Messiah, fulfilled perfectly in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But in the last two hundred years, a new interpretation emerged — one that rips the 70th week away from the first 69, projects it thousands of years into the future, and turns it into a seven-year Tribulation ruled by a future Antichrist.

This interpretation is not ancient.
It is not apostolic.
It is not biblical.
And it is not necessary.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that Christ fulfilled the prophetic timeline in His first coming, and that the modern "7-year Tribulation" is a theological invention. Ellis Skolfield's work confirms this with remarkable clarity. In *The Hidden Beast 2*, he demonstrates that Daniel's 70th

week is not about a future Antichrist — it is about the **Messiah**, the **New Covenant**, and the **end of the sacrificial system**.

This chapter restores the original, Christ-centered meaning of Daniel's prophecy and explains why this truth is essential for understanding the midnight hour.

1. The Seventy Weeks Are a Single, Unbroken Prophetic Timeline

Daniel 9:24–27 describes:

- 70 weeks
- 7 weeks
- 62 weeks
- 1 week

These are not separate eras.
They are a single, continuous timeline — 490 years — leading directly to the coming of the Messiah.

There is no gap.
No pause.
No prophetic interruption.

Skolfield emphasizes that the idea of inserting a 2,000-year gap between the 69th and 70th week is **exegetical violence**— a distortion unknown to the early Church, the Reformers, or any serious interpreter before the 1800s.

The 70th week belongs to Christ.
Not to the Antichrist.

2. The Messiah — Not the Antichrist — Confirms the Covenant

Daniel 9:27 says:

"He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week."

Modern prophecy teachers claim "he" refers to a future Antichrist.
But the grammar, context, and history all point to **the Messiah**.

Why?

- The subject of the previous verse is **the Messiah**, not an Antichrist

- Jesus inaugurated the New Covenant
- Jesus ministered for approximately 3½ years
- Jesus caused the sacrificial system to end by His death
- Jesus confirmed the covenant with many through His ministry

Skolfield demonstrates that the "he" of Daniel 9:27 is Christ Himself — the One who fulfilled the covenant promises.

The Antichrist does not confirm the covenant.
Christ does.

3. The Sacrifices Ceased Because of Christ — Not Because of a Future Dictator

Daniel says:

"In the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease."

This is not a future temple event.
It is the crucifixion.

When Jesus died:

- the veil of the temple was torn
- the sacrificial system was rendered obsolete
- the Old Covenant ended
- the New Covenant began

The sacrifices ceased **because Christ fulfilled them**, not because a future Antichrist abolished them.

Skolfield argues that this is one of the clearest proofs that the 70th week is already fulfilled.

The cross — not a future treaty — is the center of Daniel's prophecy.

4. The Final Half of the Week Belongs to the Early Church

If Christ's ministry fulfilled the first half of the 70th week, what about the second half?

Skolfield explains:

- the final 3½ years represent the early apostolic witness
- the Gospel was confirmed "with many" in Jerusalem
- the covenant was extended to Israel first
- the prophetic timeline concluded with the Gospel going to the Gentiles

This interpretation:

- honors the continuity of the 70 weeks
- aligns with the book of Acts
- matches early Christian understanding
- avoids the need for a future 7-year Tribulation

The 70th week is not future.
It is fulfilled.

5. The Modern "7-Year Tribulation" Is Built on a Misinterpretation

The entire doctrine of a future 7-year Tribulation rests on one assumption:

that the 70th week is still future.

But if the 70th week is fulfilled in Christ — and it is — then:

- there is no future 7-year Tribulation
- there is no future treaty with the Antichrist
- there is no future rebuilt temple required
- there is no future sacrificial system to be stopped
- there is no prophetic gap in Daniel's timeline

Skolfield calls the modern interpretation a "prophetic detour" that distracts believers from the true signs of the times.

The midnight hour is not defined by waiting for a 7-year countdown.
It is defined by recognizing the signs Christ actually gave.

6. The Fulfillment of the 70th Week Strengthens the Blessed Hope

Understanding that the 70th week is fulfilled:

- restores Christ to the center of prophecy
- removes confusion about the end times
- eliminates the need for a divided Second Coming
- clarifies the unity of the resurrection and judgment
- strengthens the believer's confidence in Scripture
- reveals that the prophetic clock is already near its end

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that Christ returns once, at the end of the age, after the defeat of evil at Armageddon. Skolfield's interpretation of Daniel confirms this unified timeline.

The 70th week is not a future warning.
It is a past fulfillment that points to a future hope.

7. Why This Matters for the Midnight Hour

Recognizing the fulfillment of the 70th week:

- removes false expectations
- exposes modern prophetic errors
- clarifies the true signs of Christ's return
- reveals the lateness of the hour
- aligns believers with the testimony of Scripture
- prepares the Church for the appearing of the King

The midnight hour is not about waiting for a future 7-year Tribulation.
It is about recognizing that the prophetic timeline is nearly complete.

The 70th week is behind us.
The return of Christ is before us.

Conclusion: The 70th Week Belongs to Christ — And So Does the Future

Daniel's prophecy is not about the Antichrist.
It is about the Messiah.

It is not about a future deception.
It is about a past fulfillment.

It is not about a seven-year countdown.
It is about a completed covenant.

The midnight hour is not defined by fear of what is coming.
It is defined by faith in what Christ has already done.

The 70th week is fulfilled.
The signs are converging.
The King is near.

CHAPTER NINE

The Symbolic Meaning of the Millennium

Few doctrines have been more misunderstood in modern prophecy teaching than the Millennium. For many, Revelation 20 is interpreted as a literal thousand-year earthly kingdom in which Christ rules from Jerusalem before the final judgment. This view, popularized in the last two centuries, has shaped much of contemporary end-times thinking — including the idea of a divided Second Coming, multiple resurrections, and a postponed kingdom.

But this interpretation is not ancient.
It is not apostolic.
It is not consistent with the rest of Scripture.
And it is not necessary.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that Christ returns once — visibly, gloriously, and finally — at the end of the age, not to begin a temporary earthly kingdom, but to consummate His eternal one. Ellis Skolfield's work confirms this with prophetic clarity. In *The Hidden Beast 2*, he demonstrates that the Millennium is a **symbolic period**, not a literal one — a spiritual age describing the victory of Christ over Satan and the advance of the Gospel throughout the world.

This chapter restores the biblical, symbolic meaning of the Millennium and explains why this truth is essential for understanding the midnight hour.

1. The Millennium Is Mentioned Only in One Chapter — and It Is Symbolic

Revelation 20 is the only place in Scripture where a "thousand years" is mentioned.
No prophet speaks of it.
Jesus never mentions it.
Paul never teaches it.
The apostles never preach it.

This alone should caution us against building an entire prophetic system on a single symbolic passage.

In biblical symbolism:

- **1,000** represents completeness
- **a great multitude**
- **a long, full period known only to God**

Skolfield emphasizes that the "thousand years" is not a calendar duration.
It is a **symbolic description** of the Church Age — the time between Christ's resurrection and His return.

The Millennium is not a future kingdom.
It is the present reign of Christ.

2. Christ Is Already Reigning — Not Waiting to Reign

Scripture teaches that Christ:

- sits at the right hand of God
- rules in the midst of His enemies
- has all authority in heaven and earth
- is King of kings and Lord of lords
- must reign until all enemies are under His feet

This is not future.
This is now.

The Millennium is not the beginning of Christ's reign.
It is the **continuation** of it.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that Christ's kingdom is spiritual, eternal, and already inaugurated. Skolfield's work confirms that the Millennium is the symbolic description of this present reign.

The midnight hour is not waiting for Christ to become King.
It is waiting for the King to return.

3. Satan Is Bound — Not Removed

Revelation 20 says Satan is "bound" so that he cannot "deceive the nations."
This does not mean:

- Satan is inactive
- Satan is powerless
- Satan is absent

It means:

- Satan cannot stop the spread of the Gospel
- Satan cannot prevent the nations from receiving truth
- Satan cannot halt the advance of Christ's kingdom

Skolfield explains that Satan's binding began at the cross:

- Jesus defeated him
- Jesus disarmed him
- Jesus cast him down
- Jesus limited his power

The Millennium is the age in which the Gospel goes to the nations — something impossible before Christ's victory.

The midnight hour is not the release of Satan.
It is the moment before his final destruction.

4. The "First Resurrection" Is Spiritual, Not Physical

Revelation 20 speaks of a "first resurrection."
Modern prophecy teachers claim this is a physical resurrection before the Millennium.
But Scripture teaches:

- there is **one** resurrection of the righteous
- it occurs at **the last day**
- it happens at **the last trumpet**
- it coincides with **the return of Christ**

So what is the "first resurrection"?

Skolfield explains:

- it is the **new birth**
- the spiritual resurrection of believers
- the passing from death to life
- the regeneration of the soul

Jesus said:

"The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God."

The first resurrection is happening now.
The second resurrection happens at the end of the age.

The Millennium is not a future era of resurrected saints.
It is the present era of spiritually resurrected believers.

5. The "Reign of the Saints" Is the Church Age

Revelation 20 says believers "reign with Christ."
This reign is:

- spiritual
- present
- real
- ongoing

Paul says:

- we are seated with Christ
- we reign in life
- we are kings and priests
- we have authority over darkness

This is not future.
This is now.

Skolfield emphasizes that the Millennium describes the **victorious Church**, not a future political kingdom.

The midnight hour is not waiting for believers to reign.
It is waiting for the reign to be revealed in glory.

6. The Millennium Ends With the Release of Satan — Not the Return of Christ

Revelation 20 says:

- Satan is bound
- the Gospel spreads
- the saints reign
- Satan is released
- the nations rebel
- fire falls from heaven
- the final judgment occurs

Christ returns **after** the rebellion, not before.

This destroys the idea of:

- a pre-millennial return
- a divided Second Coming
- a thousand-year earthly kingdom
- multiple resurrections
- multiple judgments

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that Christ returns once, after the defeat of evil at Armageddon. Skolfield's interpretation of the Millennium aligns perfectly with this.

The midnight hour is not the beginning of a thousand-year kingdom.
It is the end of the symbolic Millennium.

7. Why the Symbolic Millennium Matters for the Midnight Hour

Understanding the symbolic Millennium:

- restores Christ to the center of prophecy
- eliminates the need for a future earthly kingdom
- clarifies the unity of the resurrection and judgment
- exposes modern prophetic errors
- strengthens the blessed hope
- reveals the lateness of the hour
- aligns believers with the testimony of Scripture

The Millennium is not a future hope.
It is a present reality.

The midnight hour is not waiting for the Millennium to begin.
It is waiting for the Millennium to end.

And when it ends, the King appears.

Conclusion: The Millennium Is the Age of Christ's Victory — Not a Delay of It

The Millennium is not:

- a future earthly kingdom
- a political reign from Jerusalem
- a thousand-year delay of Christ's glory

It is:

- the age of the Gospel
- the reign of Christ
- the restraint of Satan
- the advance of the kingdom
- the preparation for the Second Coming

The midnight hour is not the beginning of Christ's reign.
It is the moment before its consummation.

The Millennium is symbolic.
The return of Christ is literal.

And He is near.

CHAPTER TEN

The New Heaven and the New Earth

Every prophecy, every promise, every sign, every warning, every longing of the saints across the ages leads to one final, breathtaking reality: **the New Heaven and the New Earth**. This is the destination of the blessed hope. This is the consummation of all things. This is the moment when the midnight hour gives way to eternal dawn.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the return of Christ is not the beginning of another temporary age, but the entrance into eternity itself — the moment when death is defeated, creation is renewed, and God dwells with His people forever. Ellis Skolfield's work confirms this unified vision. In *The Hidden Beast 2*, he demonstrates that the prophetic timeline does not end in a thousand-year delay, but in the **immediate renewal of creation** at the appearing of Christ.

This chapter explores the final hope of the Church — the world to come — and why this vision is essential for understanding the midnight hour.

1. The New Creation Begins Immediately After the Return of Christ

Scripture teaches a single, unified sequence:

- Christ returns
- the dead are raised
- the wicked are judged
- the old creation passes away
- the new creation begins

There is no gap.
No delay.
No thousand-year postponement.

John writes:

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:
for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away."
— Revelation 21:1

This is not a future millennium.
This is the **immediate aftermath** of Christ's appearing.

Skolfield emphasizes that the renewal of creation is not a secondary phase of history.
It is the **consummation** of history.

The midnight hour is not the beginning of another age.
It is the threshold of eternity.

2. The Old Creation Passes Away — Not Slowly, But Suddenly

Peter writes:

- the heavens will pass away with a great noise
- the elements will melt with fervent heat
- the earth and its works will be exposed
- righteousness will dwell in the new creation

This is not gradual.
It is instantaneous.

Paul says creation "groans" as it waits for this moment — the moment when the curse is lifted, the bondage of decay ends, and the children of God are revealed in glory.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the world is not drifting toward destruction, but toward **transformation**. Skolfield's work confirms that the old creation gives way to the new at the appearing of Christ.

The midnight hour is not the collapse of creation.
It is the rebirth of it.

3. The New Jerusalem Descends — God Dwells With His People

John writes:

"Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,
and he will dwell with them."
— Revelation 21:3

This is the heart of the new creation:

- God with His people
- God among His redeemed
- God wiping away every tear
- God removing death forever
- God making all things new

The New Jerusalem is not a symbol of the Church.
It is a **real, glorified city** — the eternal dwelling place of the redeemed.

Skolfield emphasizes that the descent of the New Jerusalem marks the final union of heaven and earth — the moment when the separation caused by sin is forever undone.

The midnight hour is not the end of God's presence.
It is the beginning of God's nearness.

4. Death, Sorrow, and Pain Are Forever Removed

John writes:

- no more death
- no more sorrow
- no more crying
- no more pain
- no more curse

These are not poetic metaphors.
They are literal realities.

The new creation is not a repaired world.
It is a **reborn** world — a world without decay, without corruption, without sin, without suffering.

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the blessed hope is not escape from the world, but the renewal of it. Skolfield's work confirms that the new creation is the final answer to every groan of the old.

The midnight hour is not the triumph of sorrow.
It is the end of it.

5. The Saints Inherit the Kingdom — Not Temporarily, But Eternally

Jesus said:

"The meek shall inherit the earth."

Not for a thousand years.
Not for a temporary age.
But **forever**.

Paul writes:

- the saints will judge the world
- the saints will judge angels
- the saints will reign with Christ
- the saints will inherit all things

This is not symbolic.
It is literal.

Skolfield emphasizes that the inheritance of the saints is not postponed to a millennial era.
It is granted at the return of Christ.

The midnight hour is not the beginning of a temporary kingdom.
It is the entrance into an eternal one.

6. The New Creation Is the Fulfillment of Every Promise

Every covenant points here:

- the promise to Abraham
- the promise to David
- the promise of the prophets
- the promise of Jesus
- the promise of the apostles

All find their fulfillment in the new creation.

There is:

- one return
- one resurrection
- one judgment
- one renewal
- one eternal kingdom

In *Soon and Very Soon*, you wrote that the blessed hope is the appearing of Christ and the renewal of all things. Skolfield's work confirms that this is the true climax of prophecy.

The midnight hour is not the end of God's promises.
It is the fulfillment of them.

7. Why the New Creation Matters for the Midnight Hour

Understanding the new creation:

- anchors the believer's hope
- removes fear of the end times
- clarifies the purpose of prophecy

- reveals the goodness of God's plan
- strengthens endurance
- inspires holiness
- prepares the heart for the appearing of Christ

The midnight hour is not about fear of what is coming.
It is about longing for what is promised.

The new creation is not a distant dream.
It is the next moment after the trumpet sounds.

Conclusion: The Midnight Hour Ends in Eternal Dawn

The New Heaven and the New Earth are not the epilogue of Scripture.
They are the climax.

They are not the fading light of history.
They are the eternal morning.

They are not the end of the story.
They are the beginning of the story that never ends.

The midnight hour is upon us.
But dawn is coming.
And the King is near.

Epilogue

Standing at the Edge of Dawn

There comes a moment in every believer's life when the Scriptures cease to be distant words on ancient pages and become the living voice of God speaking into the present hour. A moment when prophecy is no longer a subject to study, but a reality to behold. A moment when the heart whispers what the world refuses to admit: **the night is far spent, the day is at hand.**

This book was written in such a moment.

We have traced the prophetic patterns of Scripture, the testimony of the early Church, the clarity of Ellis Skolfield's work, and the unmistakable signs of our generation. We have watched the Beast system rise and now stand exposed. We have seen Israel restored, the Gospel proclaimed to the ends of the earth, and the nations trembling under the weight of global upheaval. We have witnessed the convergence of signs Jesus said would mark the end of the age.

And now, having walked through these pages, we stand together at the edge of dawn.

The midnight hour is not a time of despair.
It is the final watch before the appearing of the King.

The world may tremble.
Nations may rage.
Systems may collapse.
But the promises of God remain unshaken.

Christ is not delayed.
He is not distant.
He is not uncertain.

He is near.

The same Jesus who ascended from the Mount of Olives will return in glory. The same Lord who conquered death will raise the dead. The same King who reigns in heaven will renew the earth. The same Shepherd who walks with His people in the valley will gather them into everlasting joy.

And when He comes — in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye — every prophecy will find its fulfillment, every sorrow will meet its end, and every longing of the saints will be satisfied in His presence.

Until that day, we watch.
We wait.
We endure.
We hope.

Not with fear, but with faith.
Not with confusion, but with clarity.
Not with resignation, but with holy anticipation.

For the midnight cry is growing louder.
The signs are converging.
The Spirit is stirring the hearts of God's people.

And soon — very soon — the trumpet will sound, the heavens will open, and the King of Glory will appear.

May every reader of this book lift their eyes toward that blessed hope.
May your heart be anchored in the promise of His coming.
May your life reflect the light of the world that is about to dawn.

For the final word of Scripture remains the final word of this book:

"Surely I come quickly."

Amen.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Closing Benediction

May the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bright and Morning Star, shine upon every heart that has read these pages. May His light guide your steps through the midnight hour and fill you with the steadfast hope of His soon appearing.

May the Father, who appointed the times and seasons, strengthen you to watch with discernment, to stand with courage, and to walk in holiness as the day draws near. May He keep your heart anchored in the blessed hope, unmoved by fear, unshaken by the turmoil of the world, and unwavering in faith.

May the Holy Spirit, the Comforter and Spirit of Truth, guard your mind from deception, illuminate the Scriptures to your understanding, and kindle within you a deeper longing for the coming of the King. May He empower you to live with purity, boldness, and joy as you await the trumpet's sound.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ sustain you until the moment when faith becomes sight, when the heavens open, when the dead are raised incorruptible, and when the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

Until that glorious day, may your heart echo the ancient prayer of the saints:

Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Amen.

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I offer heartfelt thanks to the great cloud of witnesses — apostles, martyrs, prophets, teachers, and faithful believers from every age — whose steadfast testimony has illuminated the path for all who await the Lord's return. Their endurance, their courage, and their unwavering devotion to Christ continue to inspire and strengthen the Church in this midnight hour.

I am profoundly grateful for the prophetic clarity and scriptural fidelity of **Ellis Skolfield**, whose work has shaped and sharpened my understanding of the times. His careful analysis, his devotion to truth, and his refusal to sensationalize prophecy have been a gift to the Body of Christ. Though he has entered his rest, his voice continues to speak with clarity and conviction to those who seek to understand the prophetic Scriptures.

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To those who have prayed for me, discussed Scripture with me, or shared insights that sharpened my thinking — I am grateful. The Body of Christ is strengthened when believers labor together in hope, humility, and love.

Finally, I thank every reader who opens this book with a sincere desire to understand the times and to draw nearer to the Lord Jesus Christ. May these pages strengthen your faith, deepen your discernment, and awaken your heart to the nearness of His return. May you watch with clarity, wait with confidence, and live with holy anticipation as the day approaches.

Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

About the Author

Jim Giatas is a Christian writer, musician, and lifelong student of Scripture whose work centers on the blessed hope of the Lord's return and the prophetic clarity of God's Word. Born and raised in New York, Jim spent many years in Manhattan before settling in the quiet village of Fredonia, where the stillness of rural life has deepened his devotion to prayer, study, and reflection.

Jim is the author of *Soon and Very Soon – The Blessed Hope*, a work that has encouraged believers around the world to watch for the appearing of Christ with renewed expectation. His writing is marked by a deep reverence for Scripture, a commitment to theological clarity, and a heartfelt desire to strengthen the faith of those who long for the Lord's return.

A musician and songwriter as well as an author, Jim has spent decades composing and performing original music that reflects his love for Christ and his desire to communicate truth through beauty. His songs, like his books, are expressions of worship and testimony — offerings of gratitude to the One who redeemed him.

Jim's interest in biblical prophecy was shaped in part by the writings of Ellis Skolfield, whose careful analysis of Scripture helped illuminate the prophetic patterns that undergird this present volume. Yet Jim writes not as a scholar, but as a fellow pilgrim — one who longs to understand the times, to discern the voice of Scripture, and to encourage the Body of Christ to lift its eyes toward the eastern sky.

When he is not writing or composing, Jim enjoys quiet walks, theological study, and the simple rhythms of life in Western New York. His greatest joy is found in the hope of Christ's soon return and in sharing that hope with others.

Jim continues to write, teach, and create with one purpose:
to point hearts toward the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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